



December 4, 2000

Lawrence M. Noble, Esquire
General Counsel
Office of the General Counsel
Federal Election Commission
999 E Street, NW
6th Floor
Washington, DC 20463

Re: MUR 5155

As the complainant on the above-captioned matter under review ("MUR"), we are hereby providing the Commission with the following additional information pertaining to the violations of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, as amended, (the "Act") by the respondents Friends for a Democratic White House and J. Dewald, Chief of Staff (the "respondents"). We incorporate by reference our original complaint and state upon information and belief the following:

- 1) We hereby allege that an additional respondent has participated in the illegal scheme and committed the violations described in our original complaint. That respondent is Jeannette Hensler whose address is Holt, Michigan 48842. We have attached a statement of organization and newspaper article containing this information for the Commission's information.
- 2) The newspaper article referred to in the paragraph above describes the facts included in our original complaint and should be considered a part thereof.
- 3) In addition, subsequent to the filing of our original complaint, respondents have sent out a second mailing for apparently fraudulent purposes. A copy of this second mailing has been attached hereto. Accordingly, we reallege all of our original allegations with respect to this second mailing. Further, because the violations are of an ongoing nature, we allege that they are knowing and willful, and we respectfully request that the Commission make such a finding of knowing and willful violations of the Act.

The activities undertaken by respondents, including the fraud being perpetrated on the unsuspecting supporters of Al Gore must be stopped. The seriousness of these violations should compel the Commission to act swiftly and decisively to investigate these matters and punish the wrongdoers. If this activity is permitted to continue, the

National Headquarters
601 Mainstream Drive
Nashville, TN 37228

www.algore2000.com

Phone 615 340-2000
TTY 615 340-3260
Fax 615 340-3295

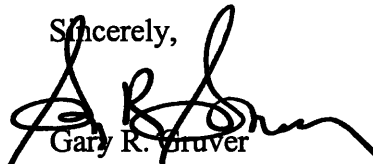
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complainant is likely to suffer irreparable harm, and complainant's supporters are likely to be bilked out of thousands of dollars for unlawful purposes. The Commission has the utmost duty to the public and to the integrity of the disclosure process to step in and prevent this illegal activity from occurring.

Sincerely,


Gary R. Gruver
Assistant Treasurer
Gore 2000, Inc.

Enc.

STATE OF TENNESSEE)
)
COUNTY OF DAVIDSON)

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 24 day of December, 2000.


Notary Public



My commission expires on: May 30 2004

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STATEMENT OF ORGANIZATION

(See reverse side for instructions)

RECEIVED
FEC MAIL ROOM

2000 NOV -6 AM 17

1 (a) NAME OF COMMITTEE IN FULL <input type="checkbox"/> (Check if name is changed)		2 DATE
Friends for a Democratic White House		11/3/00
(b) Number and Street Address <input type="checkbox"/> (Check if address is changed)		3 FEC Identification Number
2056 Thornburn St Holt, MI 48824		
(c) City, State and ZIP Code		4 Is This Report An Anti-Smear? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO

5 TYPE OF COMMITTEE (Check one)

- ☐ (a) This committee is a principal campaign committee. (Complete the candidate information below.)
- ☐ (b) This committee is an authorized committee, and is NOT a principal campaign committee. (Complete the candidate information below.)
- | | | | |
|-------------------|-----------------------------|---------------|----------------|
| Name of Candidate | Candidate Party Affiliation | Office Sought | State/District |
| | | | |
- ☐ (c) This committee supports/opposes only one candidate _____ and is NOT an authorized committee.
(Name of candidate)
- ☐ (d) This committee is a _____ committee of the _____ Party.
(National, State or subordinate) (Democratic, Republican, etc.)
- ☐ (e) This committee is a separate segregated fund.
- ☒ (f) This committee supports/opposes more than one Federal candidate and is NOT a separate segregated fund or a party committee.

6	Name of Any Connected Organization or Affiliated Committee	Mailing Address and ZIP Code	Relationship

Type of Connected Organization

☐ Corporation ☐ Corporation w/o Capital Stock ☐ Labor Organization ☐ Membership Organization ☐ Trade Association ☐ Cooperative

7 Custodian of Records: Identify by name, address (phone number - optional) and position of the person in possession of committee books and records

Full Name	Mailing Address	Title or Position
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Treasurer

8 Treasurer: List the name and address (phone number - optional) of the treasurer of the committee, and the name and address of any designated agent (e.g., assistant treasurer)

Full Name	Mailing Address	Title or Position
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Jeanette Hensler 2056 Thornburn St. Holt, MI 48842 Treasurer

9. Banks or Other Depositories: List all banks or other depositories in which the committee deposits funds, opens accounts, rents safety deposit boxes or maintains funds.

Name of Bank, Depository, etc.	Mailing Address and ZIP Code
--------------------------------	------------------------------

Old Kent Bank 6446 S. Cedar, Lansing, MI 48910

I certify that I have examined this Statement and to the best of my knowledge and belief it is true, correct and complete.

TYPE OR PRINT NAME OF TREASURER	SIGNATURE OF TREASURER	DATE
Jeanette Hensler	<i>Jeanette Hensler</i>	11/3/00

NOTF. Submission of false, erroneous, or incomplete information may subject the person signing the Statement to the penalties of 2 U.S.C. §437g. ANY CHANGE IN INFORMATION SHOULD BE REPORTED WITHIN 10 DAYS.

For further information contact:
Federal Election Commission
Toll-Free 800-424-9130
Local 202-694-1100

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FEC FORM 1
(revised 4/87)

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'Swing States PAC' Probed

By Susan Schmidt

Washington Post Staff Writer

Thursday, November 30, 2000; Page A25

"It was a hard fought battle, but with your support, the Presidency was captured for the Republican Party and George W. Bush this year. Now our opponents want to use the legal system to steal the election."

So begins a Nov. 18 solicitation for the "Swing States PAC" Legal Challenge Fund mailed to Republican givers. A letter dated just a day earlier mailed to Democratic contributors by "Friends for a Democratic White House" is nearly identical, except it insists the presidency "was captured for the Democratic Party and Al Gore this year."

The letters are popping up in mailboxes in Washington, Connecticut, Michigan and elsewhere, urging a contribution of "at least \$1,000," to be mailed in postage-paid envelopes to seemingly prestigious Pennsylvania Avenue addresses, one near the Capitol, the other a few blocks from the White House. Both are signed by a "J. Dewald," who claims the title "Chief of Staff."

So far, the envelopes aren't going to lawyers for Bush and Gore-- they are going to mail drops at Mail Boxes Etc. on Pennsylvania Avenue. As of late yesterday, the letters and the person who rented

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More

the mail drops were under scrutiny by the FBI, the U.S. Postal Inspector and the Connecticut state attorney general.

The Court

Election Day is just the beginning. Keep up with Al Kamen's In the Loop, Steve Barr's Federal Diary and news from The Post's Federal Page.



"It's obviously very misleading," said U.S. Postal Inspector Dan Mihalko. The mail is being re-sent to an address in Michigan,"

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he said, explaining that people sometimes use mail drops "to make it look like they have a legitimate suite of offices." Mihalko said the postal service knows who rented the mail drops, and said the person did present identifying information when he did so.

An FBI official in Michigan said late yesterday that the letter campaign was under investigation. "We've opened up a case; we're looking into it," said FBI official Kevin Brock.

The manager of Mail Boxes Etc. at 2000 Pennsylvania Ave. refused to discuss the mail drop there, saying the customer had filled out a postal service form authorizing him to receive mail through an agent. The form guarantees privacy to box holders at post offices and private mail drop operations.

Whoever is sending the letters isn't quite double-checking his lists, however. A couple in Darien, Conn., contacted state Attorney General Richard Blumenthal Monday after getting one of each variety. Blumenthal, a leading Democrat in Connecticut, had already gotten one himself.

"My visceral reaction was to think it was legitimate--you receive these letters every other week asking for money," he said yesterday. "The thing that set off alarm bells for me was I didn't recognize the name, J. Dewald. And the title, chief of staff--it just didn't sit right." His office began investigating Monday.

The fact that the same letters were sent to contributors in both parties "is a pretty strong indication of fraud," said Blumenthal. In addition, in Connecticut, PACs and charities must be registered to solicit funds legally, something these groups did not do, said Blumenthal.

The two PACs did register with the Federal Election Commission, filing forms that list mailing addresses in Michigan. The Republican group lists Jennifer Vavricksa of Morrice, Mich., as treasurer; the Friends for a Democratic White House lists Jeanette Hensler of Holt, Mich. Neither woman could be reached yesterday.

"They do have a Bush-Cheney sign up in their yard," said Ada Smith, a neighbor who lives across the street from Hensler, treasurer of the Democratic group. Smith, who received several calls from reporters trying to contact Hensler, said she went across the street to urge Hensler to answer questions about the fundraising group but she refused.

The postal inspector's office began a preliminary investigation yesterday

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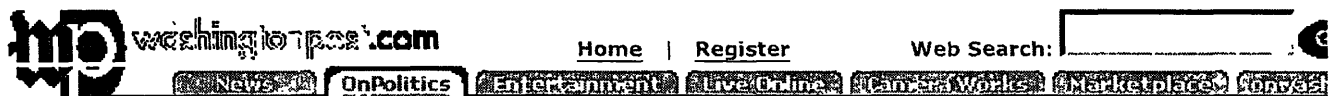
to determine whether the fundraising letters constitute mail fraud. The Bush campaign complained to the postal service several weeks ago about another "Swing States PAC" solicitation letter that promised tickets to the inaugural. The Gore campaign complained to the FEC about a similar letter.

"The Postal Service is trying to determine whether the Postal Service or the Federal Election Commission should investigate," said Mihalko. "At this point, it's not determined whether we would pursue this criminally or civilly. We're looking at it to determine whether we have a viable mail fraud case."

The letters say the cost of legal challenges in the election battle in Florida would cost each side \$3 million to \$5 million. They include "notices and disclaimers required by the Federal Elections Commission and/or the Internal Revenue Service," and include the admonition that corporate donations are not permitted and that individual contributions are limited to \$5,000.

They do promise a little something in return: "limited edition" coffee mugs "certain to become a valuable collector's item in the years to come following this unprecedented election." And there's even a place to request an e-mail alert as soon as it is shipped out.

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